

5. Discovery

- a. All fact discovery shall be completed no later than _____.
[Generally a date not more than 120 days following the initial pretrial conference (or 90 days for IDEA fee-shifting cases). The fact discovery deadline will be a **firm** deadline absent **extraordinarily** good cause. If a date more than 120 days following the initial pretrial conference is proposed, an explanation for the extended discovery period must be provided in response to question 8 below.]
- b. All expert discovery, including reports, production of underlying documents, and depositions, shall be completed no later than _____. [Absent exceptional circumstances, a date not more than 45 days from the date in paragraph 5(a) (i.e., the completion of all fact discovery).]
- c. Within two weeks of the date of entry of this Scheduling Order, the parties shall meet and confer in person to agree upon a joint plan for meeting the discovery deadlines.
- d. In the case of discovery disputes, the parties should follow Local Civil Rule 37.2 with the following modifications: Any party wishing to raise a discovery dispute with the Court **must first meet and confer in good faith** with the opposing party, in person, or by telephone, in an effort to resolve the dispute. If this process fails and the Court's intervention is required, the parties must jointly call Chambers to schedule a joint teleconference with the Court for prompt resolution of the dispute. The Court will determine during the teleconference whether additional submissions will be required.

6. Counsel for the parties believe the following alternative dispute resolution mechanisms may be helpful in resolving this case (check all that apply):

- _____ Immediate referral to the District's Mediation Program
- _____ Immediate referral to a Magistrate Judge
- _____ Referral to the District's Mediation Program after the close of fact discovery
- _____ Referral to a Magistrate Judge after the close of fact discovery
- _____ Other

7. This case [is _____ / is not _____] to be tried to a jury.

8. Other issues to be addressed at the Initial Pretrial Conference, including those set forth in Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(f)(3), are set forth below.

9. This Order may not be modified or the dates herein extended except by further Order of the Court for good cause shown. Unless the Court orders otherwise, parties engaged in settlement negotiations must pursue settlement and conduct discovery simultaneously. Parties should not assume that they will receive an extension of an existing deadline if settlement negotiations fail. Any application to modify or extend the dates herein shall be made by written application no later than two business days before the date sought to be extended in accordance with the Court's Individual Practices.
10. The next pretrial conference is scheduled for _____ at _____ in Courtroom 443 of the Thurgood Marshall Courthouse, 40 Foley Square, New York, New York 10007. [*Unless otherwise ordered, 10:00 a.m. on the first Friday after the deadline for completion of all fact discovery as set forth in paragraph 5(a).*]

By Thursday of the week prior to that conference, the parties shall submit a joint letter regarding the status of the case. The letter should include the following information in separate paragraphs:

- a. a statement of all existing deadlines, due dates, and/or cut-off dates;
- b. a brief description of any outstanding motions;
- c. a brief description of the status of discovery and of any additional discovery that needs to be completed;
- d. a statement describing the status of any settlement discussions and whether the parties would like a settlement conference;
- e. a statement of the anticipated length of trial and whether the case is to be tried to a jury;
- f. a statement of whether any party anticipates filing a motion for summary judgment or a motion to exclude expert testimony;
- g. any other issue that the parties would like to address at the pretrial conference; and
- h. any other information that the parties believe may assist the Court in advancing the case to settlement or trial.

Counsel for the Parties:

SO ORDERED.

Date: _____
New York, New York

VALERIE CAPRONI
United States District Judge